

B<sup>1</sup> 10 a movable patient transport having spaced-apart structures supporting a horizontal patient bed and depending therefrom and defining an opening under the bed sized to pass said lower magnet pole therethrough while interjecting the patient bed into said gap so as to permit substantially adjacent patient access along a side of the patient while the patient is positioned within the MRI image volume.

Please amend **claim 16** to insert the paragraph --moving said bed into juxta-position with an open gap of the C-shaped magnet; and-- after **line 5** and delete "said gap" and insert --said open gap-- in **line 12** as follows:

B<sup>2</sup> 16. A method for positioning a patient for MRI using an NMR polarizing magnet with a C-shaped cross-section, said method comprising:

5 placing said patient on a movable bed having an aperture in an undercarriage disposed below the bed;

moving said bed into juxta-position with an open gap of the C-shaped magnet; and,

10 moving said bed into said open gap while moving said aperture therebelow over a lower pole face of the magnet thus leaving unobstructed adjacent access to the patient along an entire patient body side while the patient is disposed within said open gap.